

2015

# Annual Report, 2014-2015

Amy Irving

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MENNONITE  
COLLEGE OF NURSING  
*Illinois State University*

# Annual Report

2014–2015





# MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING

*Illinois State University*

## College vision

The vision of Mennonite College of Nursing is to be a premier college of nursing dedicated to improving local and global health outcomes.

## College mission

The Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University creates a dynamic community of learning to develop exceptionally well-prepared nurses who will lead to improve health outcomes locally and globally. We promote excellence in teaching, research, service, and practice with a focus on the vulnerable and underserved. We are committed to being purposeful, open, just, caring, disciplined, and celebrative.

## About us

Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) became Illinois State University's sixth academic college on July 1, 1999. The rich heritage of MCN began in 1919. For more than 96 years the primary mission has been to prepare professional nurses by providing excellence in nursing education. This mission continues at Illinois State University. MCN has offices in Edwards Hall and the Nursing Simulation Laboratory. Student classrooms are located across campus.

## Accreditation

Accredited degree programs: baccalaureate and master's

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Phone: (202) 887-6791  
Fax: (202) 887-8476

Date of last review for both programs: April 2007

Both programs accredited through: December 31, 2017

Next review for both programs: Spring 2017

## Contact us

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Mennonite College of Nursing  
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Normal, IL 61790-5810  
Phone: (309) 438-7400  
Email: [mcninfo@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:mcninfo@IllinoisState.edu)

*Visit us at*  
**[Nursing.IllinoisState.edu](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu)**



## A message from the interim dean

Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) continues to grow and thrive ... and change! Since the last Annual Report, several roles have been reassigned. First, our dean Janet Wessel Krejci was appointed as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs of Illinois State University. We are thrilled to have her leadership continue at the University level. We miss her enthusiastic passion for nursing on a daily basis, but she will always have a special place at MCN! A national search is underway to fill the MCN Dean's position.

I am pleased to announce Mary Dyck was promoted to full professor, and Blanca Miller and Sheri Kelly accepted assistant professor positions.

We also welcomed two new instructional assistant professors, Denise Hammer and Yvette Pigman. Tricia Wiegner was appointed as the clinical practice coordinator.

The Nursing Simulation Lab (NSL) has a new director and coordinator. Melissa Jarvill accepted the position as director and is a current Ph.D. in Nursing student at MCN and her research area of interest is simulation. Marcia Buchs was appointed as the coordinator of the NSL.

Milner Library appointed Sue Franzen as the Nursing Sciences librarian, who is a tremendous resource for our faculty and students.

As we wait to hear about the state budget, I can't express my thanks enough to all of our supporters. Our programs continue to grow, and while we are still unable to admit many well-qualified students due to a shortage of faculty, limited physical space, and lack of clinical site availability we continue to prepare great nurses.

Every gift matters—now more than ever! We may have some challenging times ahead of us, but the focus on our mission will continue with preparing nurses who will lead to improve health outcomes locally and globally.

I am proud to serve as MCN's interim dean, and I look forward to meeting students, alumni, donors, friends, and members of this wonderful community. It is a very special place to be.

H. Catherine Miller, Ed.D., RN, CNE  
Interim Dean

Phone: (309) 438-2349

E-mail: [hmillers@illinoisstate.edu](mailto:hmillers@illinoisstate.edu)

## Illinois State's online nursing program ranked in *U.S. News and World Report*

by Molly Hartrup

Illinois State University's online nursing program is ranked as one of the Best Online Nursing Programs, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

"We are pleased to be recognized nationally for our online Nursing Systems Administration Program," said Mennonite College of Nursing Acting Dean H. Catherine Miller. "We have outstanding faculty members who are experts in online teaching, and we have a commitment to prepare outstanding nurses to lead in an era of growth and change."

The online nursing program is ranked 93rd on the list, and is the only public institution in Illinois to be ranked.

This is the first time Illinois State has been ranked in the Best Online Nursing Programs survey. *U.S. News* defines a nursing-distance education program as a program for which all required nonclinical courses can be completed via distance-education courses that incorporate Internet-based learning technologies.

Schools were ranked in five general categories, including student engagement, faculty credentials and training, peer reputation, student services and technology, and admissions selectivity. Other considerations included graduation rate, class size, tenured faculty, and student debt.



# Faculty and staff

## Fall 2015

### Administration

H. Catherine Miller, Ed.D., RN, CNE, interim dean

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN, associate dean of research; graduate program coordinator; professor

Dianne Clemens, M.S.N., RN, assistant dean, undergraduate programs; instructional assistant professor

Janeen Mollenhauer, M.S. '91, LCPC, assistant dean, Office of Student and Faculty Support

### Full-time faculty

Charlene Aaron, Ph.D., M.S.N. '06, RN-BC, assistant professor

Kim Buck, M.S.N., APN-BC instructional assistant professor

Mary Cranston, M.S.N., RN, instructional assistant professor; clinical course leader, America's Promise School Project

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, LNHA, professor

Denise Hammer, MSN, RNC-NIC, instructional assistant professor

Rachael Hudgins, B.S.N. '99, M.S.N. '15, APRN, instructional assistant professor; course leader, Maternal Infant Nursing

Peggy Jacobs, B.S.N. '87, D.N.P., RCN, CNM, APN, assistant professor

Dave Jansen, M.S.N., RN, instructional assistant professor

Sheryl Jenkins, '81, B.S.N. '93, Ph.D. '05, APN, ACNP, associate professor

Cathi Kaesberg, M.S.N., RN, CNS, instructional assistant professor; coordinator, Success Plan

Sheri Kelly, Ph.D. '15, RN, assistant professor

Lynn Kennell, M.S., RN, instructional assistant professor; pediatric course leader, America's Promise School Project; transcultural faculty advisor

Cindy Kerber, Ph.D. '01, APRN, BC, associate professor

MyoungJin Kim, Ph.D., associate professor, college statistician

Shelly Malin, Ph.D., RN, Advocate BroMenn Endowed Professor; project director, America's Promise School Project

Cindy Malinowski, '83, B.S.N. '89, M.S.N., RN, instructional assistant professor

Blanca Miller, Ph.D. (c), M.S.N., RN, assistant professor; PROUD project team – academic enhancement

Kathleen Morris, M.S.N., RN, instructional assistant professor

Nancy Novotny, Ph.D., RN, CNE, assistant professor

Teresa Novy, B.S.N. '03, M.S.N. '09, RN-BC, CWN, instructional assistant professor

Jamie Penrod, M.S.N., RN, instructional assistant professor

Gail Petro, M.S.N., RN, ANP-BC, instructional assistant professor

Yvette Pigman, M.S.N. '14, RN, FNP, instructional assistant professor

Carla Pohl, D.N.P., APRN-CNM, assistant professor

Nina Posada, B.S. '07, M.S.N., instructional assistant professor

O. Ed Reitz, B.S. '82, B.S.N. '94, M.S. '85, M.B.A. '89, Ph.D., RN, NEA-BC, assistant professor

Kim Schafer Astroth, Ph.D., RN, associate professor

Stephen J. Stapleton, Ph.D., RN, CEN, FAEN, assistant professor

Deb Stenger, '73, B.S.N. '01, M.S.N. '06, RN, CNL, instructional assistant professor

Teresa Valerio, M.S.N. '03, D.N.P., APN, FNP-BC, CBSM, assistant professor; leader, D.N.P. program, FNP at ISU Student Health Services

Amie Walker, B.S.N. '07, M.S.N., RN, CCAP, instructional assistant professor

Tricia Wiegner, M.S.N., RN, RN-BC, instructional assistant professor, clinical practice coordinator

Denise Wilson, Ph.D. '92, APN, CNP, CDE, professor; sequence leader, FNP

Wendy Woith, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, associate professor, Advocate BroMenn Endowed Professor

### Part-time faculty

Marsha Atkins, APN, CNP

Cathy Belcher, B.S.N. '06, M.S.N., RN

Toni Bishop-McWain, M.S.N., RN, CNRN, CCRN

Donny Bounds, B.S.N. '97, M.S.N., RN

Susana Calderon, M.S.N., RN

Kim Chacon, M.S.N., RN

Desha Cobb, B.S. '03, M.S.N. '14, FNP, M.S.

Renell Composto, M.S.N., RNC

Ardell Deckert, M.S.N., RN

Jenna Ford, B.S.N. '09, M.S.N., RN, CPN, PCNS-BC

Joanne Guymon, M.S.N., RN

Susan Hovey, M.S.N., RN

Janessa Jenkins, M.S.N., APN, NNP-BC

Susan Kaufman, '81, M.S.N, RN

Carol Kelly, M.S.N.

Kristin Kendrick, M.S.N. '13, FNP-BC

Tami Kennett, B.S.N. '97 M.S.N. '07, RN

David Kieser, B.S.N. '00, M.S.N. '07, RN, FNP-BC

Shannon Laesch, B.S.N. '99, M.S.N., APN, ACNS-BC

Nancy Machens, '78, M.S.N. '97, FNP-BC, RN

Elizabeth Madlem, B.S.N. '09, FNP, RN

Nanette Marx, M.S.N., RN, CNE

Ashley Neal, B.S.N. '97, M.S.N. '13, RN

Anne Neavor, M.S.N., RN

Beth Objartel, B.S.N. '92, M.S.N. '06, APN, GNP-BC

Jessica Oester, M.S.N., RN

Holli Painter, M.S.N., RN, CPN

Genny Petersen, B.S.N. '98, M.S.N. '03, APN, CNP

Paula Porter, M.S.N., RN

Amanda Sass, M.S.N., RN

Cindy Schaumberg, M.S.N., RN

Tammy Schnake, M.S.N. '14, RNC-OB

Kelly Schuler, M.S.N., CRN

Donna Schweitzer, B.S.N. '90, M.S.N., CCNS, CCRN

Jen Stouffer, B.S.N. '06, M.S.N., RN, CPN

Jessica Sullivan, M.S.N. '10, FNP-BC

Susan Summers, M.S.N., RN

Janet Sutter, M.S.N., RN

Debra Veach, M.S.N., RN

### Staff

Lissa Bevins, administrative aide, Office of the Dean

Christine Boicken, B.S. '89, administrative aide, Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Program Office

Marcia Buchs, B.S. '01, B.S.N., M.A., RN, coordinator, Nursing Simulation Lab

Nancy Diller, M.S.W. '07, undergraduate academic advisor, Office of Student and Faculty Services

Diane Folken, B.S. '77, director, Business and Finance, Office of the Dean

Sue Franzen, MSL, Nursing and Health Sciences Librarian, Milner Library

Keith Golden, technology support associate, Office of Information Technology

Amy Irving, B.S. '91, director, Public Relations, Office of the Dean

Melissa Jarvill, M.S.N., RNC-NIC, director, Nursing Simulation Lab

Elizabeth Kosuth, B.S. '01, M.S. '10, extra help, Office of Student and Faculty Services

Susan Lynch, B.A., assistant to the dean, Office of the Dean

Kelli McLean, extra help, Office of the Dean

Melissa Moody, M.S. '97, graduate academic advisor and transcultural coordinator, Office of Student and Faculty Services

Chris Morgan, director, Office of Information Technology

Olanna Pullen, B.A. '97, M.S.E. '07, outreach and program coordinator, PROUD Project Team

Linda Rash, office support specialist, PROUD Project Team

Sandy Thompson, B.S.N., extra help, Nursing Simulation Lab

Nancy Wagler, B.A., office support specialist, Office of Student and Faculty Services

Jenny Ward, CFRE, director, Development

Tenna Webb, admission and records representative, Office of Student and Faculty Services

Heather Winfrey-Richman, B.S.E. '00, assistant to the associate dean/academics special project manager, Office of the Dean

We are proud to identify MCN and/or ISU alumni and have indicated their degree and class year in blue text.

## New full time faculty and staff



Marcia Buchs, coordinator,  
Nursing Simulation Lab



Sue Franzen, Nursing and Health  
Sciences Librarian, Milner  
Library



Denise Hammer, instructional  
assistant professor



Melissa Jarvill, director, Nursing  
Simulation Lab



Sheri Kelly, assistant professor



Blanca Miller, assistant  
professor



Yvette Pigman, instructional  
assistant professor



Tricia Wiegner, instructional  
assistant professor, clinical  
practice coordinator

## Undergraduate program highlights

The “new” plan of study for the Traditional Undergraduate Program, initiated in fall 2012, is moving toward full implementation. The last fall semester Nursing Leadership course was offered in 2014, followed by the last December graduation for undergraduate nursing students. Nursing Leadership will now be offered only in spring semesters and traditional undergraduate students will only graduate at the end of spring semesters.

With the “new” plan of study we continue to slowly build the number of students in the undergraduate program to our maximum of 152 students per class. In fall 2014 and spring 2015, we brought in 147 students requiring a combined 137 clinicals and 30 labs sections. These increased numbers stretch our staff, faculty, lab, and clinical resources, but we remain committed to the quality and student-centered education MCN is noted for throughout the community, state, and nation.

With an increased number of students applying for fall 2014 admission for the RN-B.S.N. sequence, we offered a spring 2015 cohort, in addition to our traditional fall cohort. Offering an additional cohort in the future is dependent upon student applications.

Community colleges are doing a great job of encouraging their ADN graduates to continue on for their B.S.N.; many hospitals are requiring new hires to have a B.S.N. or earn one within four years after hire. Assistant Dean of Student and Faculty Services Janeen Mollenhauer and I have been working closely with the nursing leadership and administration of area community colleges to allow an easier “pathway” for ADN students to move more seamlessly into our RN-B.S.N. program.

We are also developing a mechanism for community college nursing students to have a seat reserved in our RN-B.S.N. program for up to two years after graduating from their ADN program. This has been a great collaborative effort! MCN benefits as we secure the brightest and most eager graduates to our RN-B.S.N. program, and community colleges assure their ADN graduates benefit from a secure seat at MCN without interruption in their education.

This fully online sequence, perfect for the working RN, is dynamic and interactive. The faculty are committed to student-focused instruction that meets the rigorous standards of Quality Matters, a faculty-centered, peer-review process specifically designed to certify the quality of online and blended instruction.

Accelerated B.S.N. students continue to provide us with much diversity and depth of experiences with their previous bachelor's degree. MCN's accelerated students, as documented nationally, continue to be sought after for employment opportunities and move into advanced degrees soon after graduation.

The more students we have in our traditional and accelerated options, the more the Nursing Simulation Lab (NSL) bustles and hustles! The NSL is still new to us, but actually was opened in July of 2011; it continues to be a site for multiple student and campus tours and open houses, Psychomotor and Health Assessment Labs, and campus clinical days for all eight clinical courses. In addition, courses for the Family Nurse Practitioner Program and Ph.D. are taught in the NSL. Continued finessing of the scenarios in the simulated hospital creates a more realistic experience for our students; faculty and staff continue to grow in expertise as more faculty and collaborative research is being conducted.

We are consistent with nursing programs nationally in experiencing nursing faculty moving into the retirement phase; every effort is being made to transition newer faculty into courses taught by the more experienced, older faculty prior to their retirement. Much institutional history and expertise is lost with faculty leaving, but we are impressed with the passion of new faculty. MCN's mission, vision, and strategic map will provide the road map for the future, and I am confident MCN is in good hands!

Dianne Clemens, M.S.N., RN

Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs, Instructional Assistant Professor

## Graduate program highlights

We were excited to welcome the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) evaluators to campus November 9-11, 2015. We have been preparing for accreditation of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program since the program opened in May 2013. The accreditation is focused on quality improvement, and we have learned a lot about the strengths of the program and, of course, areas for improvement. We are confident that our program meets the national standards for quality and will produce well-prepared graduates capable of leading in complex clinical environments. Some of the planning for the site evaluation has included:

- Development of the self-study document to illustrate how the D.N.P. program conforms to national standards set by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Consulting with our communities of interest to determine strengths, areas for improvement, and the development of an action plan for addressing concerns
- Mary Collins, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, is a D.N.P. content expert, CCNE reviewer, and former director of the D.N.P. Program at St. John's Fisher College in Rochester, New York, provided a review of the self-study document and plan for the site visit
- The Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Program Coordinator attended the CCNE Self-Study Writing Workshop in October 2014, and the Interim Dean attended a workshop in March 2015, in preparation for leading the development of the self-study document
- Faculty, staff, and students in the D.N.P. program and across the college have collaborated to ensure the accreditation evaluation was a success

Online graduate education at MCN is designed to ensure that working adults have access to high quality education that promotes their career interests. Both the D.N.P. and the Nursing Systems Administration sequence (MSN) are 100 percent online. We are using Quality Matters, a national peer-review certification process, to validate the quality of our online learning environment. Five faculty teaching in the D.N.P. and Nursing Systems Administration (NSA) have participated in the Design, Align, Refine and Teach (DART) program offered by the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology at Illinois State, to improve the quality of online course



delivery. The attention to quality is paying off, and for the first time, with leadership from Assistant Professor O. Ed Reitz, sequence leader for the NSA, the sequence was ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* in the “Best Online Nursing Programs” category. Illinois State University was the only public institution to be ranked on the published list in the “Best Online Nursing Programs” category.

The competition for graduate students is growing as the number of colleges of nursing and for-profit educational institutions implement or expand graduate programs. At MCN, we are doing everything possible to educate the community about the quality, accessibility, and affordability of our graduate programs. With the help of partners across the University, we have created a Strategic Plan for Marketing and Recruitment and are using this to track the impact of our student-recruitment approaches and using data to guide decision-making.

Graduate education at Illinois State University Mennonite College of Nursing just keeps getting better! Thank you to everyone who works hard every day to promote teaching and learning.

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN

Associate Dean of Research, Graduate Program Coordinator, Professor

## Maitland gift launches innovative program to bridge communication gap in health care

by Kevin Bersett

Several studies have shown that poor communication among health care workers has hurt patients, resulting in their deaths in some cases. Illinois State University is trying to fix the problem by bridging the communication gap between students before they enter their health care professions.



SLP student Amy White and nursing students Emily Asai and Caitlin Pongracz assess patient-actor Betty Wagner '48 during one of the simulations.

Thanks to the support and encouragement of former state Sen. John Maitland Jr. and his wife, Joanne, an innovative pilot project has brought together Honors students in nursing and speech-language pathology (SLP). The project's 16 students, split evenly between the two disciplines, learned general medical terminology and about each other's scopes of practice in class. But more importantly they participated in several simulations together in which they assessed simulated patients with language, swallowing, or cognitive disorders.

“This is us assessing the patient and not just observing them,” said Allie Ricks, a senior speech-language pathology student. “I wish everyone could go through this experience.”

Nursing Assistant Professor Charlene Aaron collaborated with Assistant Professor Jennine Harvey-Northrop and Clinical Supervisor Rene McClure, both of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, to design and implement the project. The professors said the problem in health care has been that the different specialists—nurses, physicians, speech-language pathologists, etc.—work in silos and don't always communicate or know how to communicate with one another. This is often due to the use of different terminology or a lack of understanding of what the other professions do or the constraints under which they are working.

This project is unique to Illinois State, due to the absence of literature on interdisciplinary education between nurses and speech pathologists. The project addresses the communication problems between the two professions by measuring students' collaborative learning through simulations, as opposed to just telling students about the communication problems through a lecture.

“We want to change the way that we teach, train, and practice in both fields,” said Harvey-Northrop, Ph.D., CCC-SLP.

Students participated in the final patient simulations the morning of April 4 at the Mennonite College of Nursing Simulation Laboratory. The patients were played by volunteer actors, many of whom are former nurses, and friends and alums of the College of Nursing.

In one case, two nursing students and an SLP student had to assess a patient with a traumatic brain injury. The students were given the case study, planned how they would assess the patient, and then had to immediately talk to him about what problems he was dealing with.

“Can’t run. Can’t work. Can’t talk. Don’t sleep very well,” he said. “That’s the A list.”

The professors purposely have the actors or their actor-spouses be blunt or overbearing at times to give the students a realistic experience. It can be a pressure-packed, awkward 20 minutes for the inexperienced students—and at times cringeworthy for the professors who monitor the students from a bank of televisions fed live recordings of the patient rooms.

“(The students) can’t fake it,” said McClure, CCC-SLP ’91, M.S. ’92.

Hannah Sons, a junior SLP student, said she has learned in which areas she is lacking. The class is also instructive for SLP students who don’t otherwise get hands-on training with patients in their undergraduate studies. They learn simple things like how to introduce themselves to

patients or how to ask nurses for the patient’s vital signs.

“You don’t realize how much experience is worth until you have it,” Sons said.

Nursing sophomore Abby House said the project has been valuable because she has learned more about what speech-language pathologists actually do.

“It’s nice to have a class with people with different perspectives,” she said.

After the simulations, the professors and students gathered to review what happened. The professors asked questions to encourage the students to examine what they did and why they did it.

“It’s learning outside the classroom,” said

Aaron, Ph.D., RN ’06.

Senator Maitland has been a long-term patient of the SLP program, and both he and his wife have been longtime supporters of the nursing college.

Joanne Maitland said they were very enthused to support such an exciting, new opportunity for the students.

“You can see where they need each other,” she said.

The professors hope the project will eventually become part of the regular curriculum. They are conducting research on the class for an academic paper and presentations and want to develop a model course that can be copied by other universities.

“We hope it will result in better outcomes for our patients,” Aaron said.

If you are interested in supporting this or other innovative projects, contact Jenny Ward, director of development, at (309) 438-7178 or [jsward@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:jsward@IllinoisState.edu).



John and Joanne Maitland and Director of Nursing Simulation Sheryl Kelly monitor the patient simulations.



## Development

As I look back on the past year, I am amazed at how much financial support of Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) continues to help students fulfill their dreams of becoming exceptionally well-prepared nurses. It is the personal stories that help people connect to the mission of MCN. I could write a book about the stories I hear from students, faculty, alumni, and friends, and how your gifts have made a difference. Here are just a few:



One of our current students has a physical disability—he does not have a left hand. However, Michael Binder does not let his disability detract from his passion to be a nurse. He learns to overcome obstacles, and he knows in the future he will have more. Binder was the first recipient of the Bobbie McCambridge Endowed Nursing Scholarship for the 2014-15 year. He said, “I can’t thank the donor enough for this wonderful opportunity, for getting the financial burden off my back so I can pursue my dream.”

And pursue it he has. Binder not only works hard in his nursing courses, he has also taken advantage of the many opportunities on Illinois State University’s campus. He was an Alternative Break Bus Leader, Academic Campus-Community Empowerment Education Chair, a member of the Student Nursing Association, and the new Men of Nursing, Leaders of Social Change Group, and the Association of Resident Halls Secretary. Binder’s attitude, leadership, and involvement earned him respect from his peers by his nomination to ISU’s 2015 Homecoming Court.

Another story is about a former-student-turned-MCN-employee, turned-graduate-student, turned-scholarship-donor! While Cheryl Carmack, B.S.N. ’02, M.S.N. ’12 was an undergraduate student at MCN, she was the president of the Student Nurses Association. A few years after she graduated, she returned to MCN as the lab coordinator and continued her education in the FNP program. She is currently a practicing FNP in Central Illinois, and in 2012 established the Della Mae Burns Scholarship in honor of her mother, who was her role model for strength, dedication, and hard work.

And finally, thanks to the initiative of MCN friend Dan Kelley ’70, and our Strategy and Planning Council, the Nursing Simulation Lab has a brand new SimBaby! This high-tech patient simulator will help students learn how to care for a sick infant in a safe environment while supervised by their faculty mentors. Kelley jumped in and helped start the fundraising with some corporate gifts, and then added his own gift of grain (he is a farmer.) Over 250 alumni and friends joined in and helped us reach and exceed our goal. As Kelley noted at the “baby shower,” his gift is an investment in the future education of nursing students. Indeed, every gift is an investment in fulfilling MCN’s mission of developing exceptionally well-prepared nurses. On behalf of MCN, we can’t thank Kelley and his wife, Pam, enough for their leadership and continued support!

Every student has a passion. Every student has a story. Yes, YOU make a difference in the lives of our students, who are leading the way in our health care centers and throughout our communities. Thank you!

Jenny Ward, CFRE  
Director of Development  
(309) 438-7178  
jsward@IllinoisState.edu

Visit [Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/StudentLife/Scholarships.php](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/StudentLife/Scholarships.php) to see videos about Michael Binder, Cheryl Carmack and SimBaby.



## MCN hosts annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet



### Attendees at the 2014 Scholarship and Awards Banquet

The Mennonite College of Nursing held its annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet at the Alumni Center on September 11, 2014.

Interim Dean H. Catherine Miller hosted the event, and President Larry Dietz welcomed the packed room of donors and recipients. Remarks were also made by Provost Janet Krejci. Senior Kaitlin Ross thanked the donors on behalf of all of the student scholarship recipients, and Billy Adkisson, who along with his wife, Ellen Bourne, established a new scholarship, made remarks on behalf of scholarship donors.

More than 240 students applied for scholarships for the 2014–15 academic year, and the college awarded 70.

“This event gives our recipients the opportunity to meet the donor of the scholarship they were awarded and thank them in person,” Miller said. “We wish we could help every student with a financial need, and we are so grateful for each and every new scholarship that we are able to award.”

This past year, nine new scholarships were added. MCN Director of Development Jenny Ward worked with each donor to create their specific award.

“Both our donors and students have very poignant nursing stories,” Ward said. “It is heart-warming to see them come together and meet. Even if the student’s donor is not able to attend, they sit with other donors and share their journey into nursing.”

For more information about establishing a scholarship, contact Ward at (309) 438-7178 or [jsward@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:jsward@IllinoisState.edu).

# Scholarship recipients

**July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015**

**Adkisson-Bourne Endowed Scholarship**

Donors: Billy Adkisson and Ellen Bourne  
Recipient: Brittany Ziller

**Eunice Beetzel '40 Scholarship**

Donor: Connie Fegan  
Recipient: Luke Bachtold

**Helen A. Bender Endowed Scholarship**

Donor: Helen A. Bender\*  
Recipient: Melissa Jarvill

**Dr. Maureen Block, Illinois Heart & Lung Foundation, Spirit of Success Memorial Scholarship**

Donor: Illinois Heart & Lung Foundation  
Recipient: Brandi Jones

**Erma Mae Liddle Borchers '48, Endowed Scholarship**

Donor: Warren Borchers  
Recipient: Ellen Wetzel

**Esther Lyon Brock Endowed Scholarship**

Donors: The Family of Esther Lyon Brock  
Recipient: Marnie Johnson

**Della Mae Burns Scholarship**

Donor: Cheryl Carmack, B.S.N. '02, M.S.N. '12  
Recipient: Nichole Gallagher

**Dr. Brett Cassens, B.A. '72, Endowed Memorial Scholarship**

Donor: Cassens/Stille Trust  
Recipient: Bearnard Kenyon

**Linda Meints Cooper Scholarship for Nurse Athletes**

Donor: Linda Meints Cooper, M.S.N. '99  
Recipient: Kristin Horney

**Dean's Endowed Scholarship**

Current Dean: Janet Wessel Krejci  
Recipient: Bridget Good

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## New scholarships

Since the 2014 Scholarship and Awards Banquet, six new scholarships have been established. MCN Director of Development Jenny Ward worked with each donor to create their specific award. "Both our donors and students have very poignant nursing stories," Ward said. "Each one is very special, as its purpose reflects the donor's specific passion for nursing and health care. Each donor understands that by supporting a student they will not only ease their burden, but also provide new opportunities and inspiration. Students have shared that they don't want to let down these generous people who believe in their success."

The college received nearly 300 applications for scholarships for the 2015–16 academic year and awarded 87 scholarships and awards.

## Aaron Junior Geriatric Award

The Aaron Junior Geriatric Award was created in 2015 by Dr. Charlene Aaron, an assistant professor at Illinois State University Mennonite College of Nursing.

The purpose of this award is to recognize an outstanding junior nursing student who has demonstrated compassion and caring toward older adults in the nursing home setting, while going over and above to make all interactions with elders truly resident-centered. Students who are fully engaged by preparing for their clinical experience, eager to learn, have a positive attitude and bright/comforting affect during interactions with residents, peers, staff, and instructor, deserve extra support. Learning to care for older adults requires maturity, patience, and a sense of humor. Recognizing students who excel during learning opportunities with elders, promotes a positive outlook on gerontological nursing and may further student interest in community or research projects concerning older adult health outcomes. As the award recipient moves through the program, clinical and research faculty are available to mentor and guide the student to ensure successful completion of the nursing program.



Aaron has a passion for geriatrics. She received awards from both MCN and the University of Iowa in recognition of her contributions to gerontology and long-term care. She also received the Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity Pre-Doctoral Scholarship from the John A. Hartford Foundation for the 2010-2012 period and is designated as a Patricia G. Archbold Scholar.

Aaron is dedicated to the Illinois State University Nursing program and students, and it is her hope that this award provides support, assistance, and encouragement.

## Emily Anne Fredbloom Memorial Scholarship

With great pride, Emily Anne Fredbloom graduated cum laude from Mennonite College of Nursing in May 2010. Emily was described by friends and co-workers as having a bubbly, bouncy personality with a smile that could light up any room. She loved people and her gregarious nature drew people to her. Growing up, her parents called Emily their “little social butterfly.”

As a three-sport athlete (volleyball, basketball, and softball), Fredbloom had a competitive side and loved being active. She focused on volleyball her last two years in high school, earning All-Area and All-Conference honors.

The one characteristic that was often initially overlooked when meeting Fredbloom was her fierce determination to achieve goals and meet challenges. Fredbloom’s biggest goal was to become a registered nurse, though it would prove to be a difficult journey. She was not pre-admitted directly to the nursing program at MCN out of high school. During her new student orientation at Illinois State, she was told by her academic advisor that she might have to consider another major because of the limited availability at MCN. She would need to earn straight A’s her first two years at ISU to be accepted. True to her character, she met that challenge while also being an active member of the Tri-Delta sorority.

A tough job market greeted Fredbloom upon graduation from MCN, but she was determined to be self-sufficient. She worked part-time as a grocery store cashier and also as a teacher’s helper in an after-school program while she sought her first nursing opportunity. She landed a job at the hospital where she was born—in the acute rehabilitation unit of The Community Hospital in Munster, Indiana.

After gaining a year of experience, she realized another goal—working as a registered nurse at a major Chicago hospital, Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Fredbloom worked in the observation unit for 2½ years and had recently transitioned to the GI Lab. During that time she made the move to Chicago and thoroughly enjoyed the constant activity the big city offered.

Surrounded by advanced medical care, Fredbloom still believed the best medicine was a warm smile and words of encouragement. When her hiring managers were asked why they chose her, they answered all the same: they were drawn to her professional skills, smile, lively personality, and infectious energy. Her co-workers said her patients never left the unit without giving her a hug.

But a fateful day in August 2014 changed everything. Fredbloom was critically injured in an accident. She was placed in a drug-induced coma to try to stop the swelling in her brain.

She always believed that a nurse was the patient’s best advocate, and that every patient deserved dignity and respect. The nurses around her became her advocates. Even though she may not have been able to hear or understand their words, her nurses, doctors, and other members of her health care team introduced themselves each time they entered her room and explained procedures/tasks to her. They also made sure her dignity was not compromised by maintaining her privacy during treatments. The family was impressed with the compassion and commitment that her co-workers demonstrated as they cared for her.

Emily Anne Fredbloom was called to heaven after a courageous three-week battle on September 19, 2014, two months before her 27th birthday.

Fredbloom’s family was always very proud that their daughter chose such a noble profession. However, after sitting at her bedside 24 hours a day and seeing the care she received, they came to consider nurses as “earth’s angels.” Throughout their personal tragedy, they had the privilege of hearing how their daughter touched lives—more lives than they could have imagined.





The Fredbloom family wants to continue their daughter's exemplary work and hopefully relieve stress by providing scholarship assistance to future Mennonite College of Nursing students who embody Fredbloom's passion for life, nursing, and care for others.

## Coletta Kintzle Memorial Scholarship

Coletta Kintzle, the second oldest of seven children, grew up on a farm in Iowa. In those days, the need for many helping hands on the farm caused her to quit school after her sophomore year to help at home.



At age 20, she married an ambitious farmhand who was working for a neighbor. It wasn't long before they purchased a farm of their own and raised six children. They were blessed with 74 years together and died seven months apart in 2010 at ages 95 and 97.

A few days prior to Kintzle's death, her daughter Joyce was sitting by her bedside when her mother began to share memories of her life. What stood out most to Joyce in that conversation was the fact that Kintzle had always wanted to be a nurse, a dream that she had not shared with anyone before. Since she had to quit school at such a young age, her goal to become a nurse was never realized. Family and farming always came first.

It wasn't long before her daughter began to think about ways she could honor her mom with a memorial. Since Joyce was an ISU graduate, and her mom had always wanted to be a nurse, a Mennonite College of Nursing Scholarship at Illinois State University seemed to be a perfect match.

Kintzle would certainly be pleased to know that even though her dream was never achieved, industrious and caring students will be able to pursue their dreams with the assistance of Kintzle's Memorial Scholarship. She was a lady with great faith, and her family prays that recipients of this scholarship will carry on the Lord's work throughout their nursing careers.

## The William and Alice McKnight Scholarship

The William and Alice McKnight Scholarship was created through a provision made in the estate of William McKnight to support nursing students enrolled at Illinois State University Mennonite College of Nursing.

McKnight was the Chairman Emeritus of McKnight Publishing Company. Alice McKnight, who died in 1995, received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Illinois State University, and was a former teacher.

## Joni Smith, B.S.N. '96 Scholarship

Joni Smith's mother is an R.N. Her great-grandfather was a physician who believed in learning and serving. When Joni started at Mennonite College of Nursing, she was a young mom recently married. Everyone created a close-knit group that helped her succeed. She dropped her baby off at the dorm during class, and the girls watched her. Sometimes she took her daughter to class, where she was used as a patient to learn milestones. The family reaction was a gift that helped her excel.



After two years of ICU nursing in Central Illinois, Smith worked at Rush University SICU. She completed an M.S.N. in nurse anesthesia in 2000 and has since worked in under-served areas with an array of cases/patient populations. Her career has allowed her to serve in a variety of ways. The understanding gained can't be quantified by medical learning knowledge alone.

Smith's idea of nursing changed while at MCN. She once believed it was a task-oriented career of injections, medications, and patient care. In the years to follow, she learned nursing evolves with time

and through experiences. It becomes about the privilege of being present in another's life. While tasks are done with highest-level learning, the gift of nursing permeates your entire life. It is often a gift nurses don't realize they have received and one that deepens each passing year.

Smith received scholarships from MCN and the American Business Women's Association. They were appreciated because she did not have funds for her education. This is one reason she is giving back. She is also grateful for the gift of time and talent from her MCN instructors and college peers who served Smith and her family.

## The William and Nancy Yarger Nursing Leadership Endowed Scholarship Fund

The William and Nancy Yarger Nursing Leadership Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in 2014 by William and Nancy Yarger to support the development of student leaders in the undergraduate nursing program at Illinois State University.

One or more worthy student leader(s) from the Student Nursing Association (SNA) will receive an award in the spring semester each year to help defray the costs of attending a regional or national leadership conference. This conference would ideally precede the year that recipients will be serving the College of Nursing as a class officer, allowing the experience to not only provide personal enrichment, but also help them to use the knowledge gained to enhance the Student Nursing Association for the benefit of the student members, the College of Nursing and the Illinois State University and surrounding communities served by the SNA.

William (Bill) Yarger graduated from University High School in 1964 and from Illinois State University in 1969 with a degree in Business Administration from the College of Business. Nancy also graduated from Illinois State in 1969, with a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences from the College of Applied Science and Technology.

For 35 years, Bill was co-owner of the Alamo II, a familiar and busy site for students, faculty, and staff on the east edge of the University campus.



## In memory

### We remember two long-time endowed scholarship donors ...

M. Rudelle Goodwin died on March 24 at the age of 103. She was born and raised in Illinois. She graduated from Bloomington High School in 1929. In 1933 she married Harold Goodwin of Paxton, and they had one daughter, Dee Goodwin. Goodwin was a life-long leader and volunteer. In December 2000, she established the M. Rudelle Goodwin Endowed Nursing Scholarship for the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. It was Goodwin's concern for the nursing shortage and for nursing care that led her to establish this fund.



Vivian O. Stockdale passed away on May 30 at the age of 96. She was born and educated in the area of the Illinois farming community of Sibley. In 1944 she enlisted in the WAVES. After a short training period at a Bethesda, Maryland, hospital, she spent four years performing nursing duties at several naval hospitals in California. In 1950 she was recalled for 18 months for the Korean Conflict. In 1952, she returned to Bloomington where she worked in the accounting department at Ralston Purina until her retirement in 1983. After her retirement she served as a volunteer for the Red Cross Bloodmobile program. From her years of hospital experience and hearing of the shortage of nurses, Stockdale felt there was a need for aid so students could finish their education in the field of nursing. In November 2001 she established the Vivian O. Stockdale Endowed Nursing Scholarship as a means of supporting the profession and perpetuating her desire to provide care for others.





# Honor roll of donors

July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015

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Susan and William Kohler	Rachel and Charles Moser	Paul and June Schmidt	Sally and Martin Toohill
Marissa Koszewski	Donna and Bob Mundzic	Rita and Dan Schmidt	Stephen Tracy
Cynthia and Glenn Kraemer	Norma Nelson	Erin and Joseph Schmitt	Susan and Steve Tracy
Vicki and Michael Kropfle	Marjorie Nester	Yvonne and Richard Schmudde	Sally Traylor
Kruger Farms	William and Linda Nichelson	Robert and Mary Schopp	Mary Troglia
Robert and Debra Kruger	Nyle and Evelyn Norris	Hulda and John Schrag	Toni and Mike Tucker
Patricia and Gerald Lackey	Thomas and Pamela Norris	Juergen and Meredith Schroeer	Robert Turnbull
Marcia and Terry Laesch	Teresa Novy	Kelly and Paul Schuler	Kaitlyn Tykal
Gail and Douglas Lamb	Amy and John O'Brien	Becky and Rick Schultz	Amy and James Ulrich
Anna Larkin	Alexis Oduyale	Wendi Seaman	Kenneth and Ruby Ulrich
Gina Larson	Jaime Olaguez	Bradley and Roseanne Secord	Ruth and Leonard Unzicker
Jeanette and James Lavallier	Imogene Olsen	Rebecca Sedlock	Paula Valentine
Diem Le	Dianne and Robert Olson	Bradley J. Secord Family Trust	Kaitlyn Ventura
Pamela and Douglas LeConte	Mary and Paul Orns	Sarah Shaak	Clarence Vogelzang
Samantha Leeper	Clarence and Jeanne Oyer	Ruth Shaffer	Betty and Duane Wagner
Abigail Leffel	Diane and Rick Parker	Pamela and Jim Shepard	Carolyn and Steve Walker
Charles and Brenda Lehman	D Arlene Parks	Velma and Richard Shetler	Leo Walker
Marie and Jeff Lehman	Kelli and John Pasley	Lisa and Stephen Shimkus	Linda Wall
Sandra and Rodney Lehman	Lisa Pavesic	Denise Shoemaker*	Dawn and Daniel Webb
Thelma Lehman	Steven and Kay Payne	Renee Simons Trenor	Tenna and Raymond Webb
Donna and Richard Leonard	Teresa Pence	Delores and Gerald Simpsen	Mark and Megan Wertz
Joseph Lesiak	Lilia and Ronald Peters	Richard and Linda Singer	Linda Westfall
Lila L Martin Trust	Mary and Larry Peterson	Julie and Kenneth Sinnett	Jennifer and Jason Whitfill
Rosina and A. Dale Litwiller	Nancy Petropoulos	Nathan Slider	Peter Whitmer
Virginia and Robert Lockwood	Jerry Pfister	Sandra and William Slingsby	Susan Wiant Crabb
Beth and Charles Logan	Judith Pike	Gary and Mary Slutz	Kathleen and Roger Wiegand
Maxine and Richard Lolling	Sally and Chad Plenert	Penny Small	Mary Ellen and Steven Wiegand
Maryam Lopez	A. Darlene and Joseph Poindexter	Deborah Smith	Martha Willi
Nancy LoPiccalo	Alexis Powell	Mary Alice Smith	Clara Williams
Stephanie Los-Bongiorno	Betty Pratt	Mary Alice Smith Irrevocable Trust	Verla Williams
Jayne and Kevin Lottinville	Amanda Probasco	Paula and Steven Snodgrass	Thomas and Kay Wilson
Matthew and Tracy Love	Angel Pulido	Nancy and Valentine Springer	Nancy and Richard Woods
Nancy and John Machens	P. Joan and Robert Pyne		Mindi and Mark Wuest
Kathryn Macy	Linda Rash		Linda and Mario Yap
Elizabeth and Gabriel Madlem	Robert and Laurie Rasmus		
	Sonja Reece		
	Sandra Reichert		
	Janice and Scott Reid		



Kevin Yee	John and Patricia Yoder	Melissa and Timothy Yuhas	Lindsey and Robert Zum
Pi-Ming Yeh	Linda and Paul Young	Rebecca and Roger Zehr	Mallen
Cody Yochum	Sally Young	Kay and Gary Ziebarth	*deceased
Betty and Wallace Yoder	Sara and David Young		

We have made every attempt to ensure accuracy. If your name has been omitted, misspelled, or incorrectly listed, please accept our apologies and contact Director of Development Jenny Ward at (309) 438-7178 or [jsward@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:jsward@IllinoisState.edu).

## Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization

### Board of Directors July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015

#### President

Jenifer Patton '04

#### President-elect

Linda Meints Cooper, M.S.N. '99

#### Past presidents

##### 2010-12

Linda Meints Cooper, M.S.N. '99

##### 2004-10

Donny Bounds, B.S.N. '97

##### 2000-04

Alice Kumler Deavers '52

#### Directors

Donny Bounds, B.S.N. '97

Cheryl Carmack, B.S.N. '02, M.S.N. '12

Alice Kumler Deavers '52

Sue Collins Grant, B.S.N. '95

Vickie Gasche Lannie '65

Sarah Kaiser Lindsey, B.S.N. '00

Elizabeth Guth Madlem, B.S.N. '09

Karen Roop Magers '79

Maggie O'Malley, B.S.N. '98, M.S.N. '12

O. Ed Reitz, B.S. '82, B.S.N. '94, M.S. '85, M.B.A. '89

#### Advisory members

H. Catherine Miller • interim dean, Mennonite College of Nursing

Jamie Sennett '94 • director, Alumni Relations

Jenny Ward • director, Development

## Strategy and Planning Council

### July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015

#### Members

Luann Anderson, Vice President, Director of Operations, Pinnacle Actuarial Resources, Inc.

Vicki Bied, Senior Vice President, Nursing Services, Heritage Operations Group

Kellie Clapper, Assistant Vice President, Public Affairs, State Farm Insurance

Dr. Kathy Davis, McLean County Coroner

Dan Deneen, Attorney

Donald Fernandes, Senior Vice President, Investment, Wells Fargo

Rachel Gawthorp-Lanzerotte, Applied Pain Institute

Joan Guenther, Retired

Russ Hagen, CEO, Chestnut Health Systems

Cheryl Jackson, Attorney, State Farm Insurance

Dr. John Krupka, Retired physician

Bill Lawrence, Petrov Lawrence Reed Insurance

John Lawrence, Retired

Meredith Lovelass, Meredith's Properties

Elizabeth Madlem, Advocate BroMenn Healthcare

Dave Magers, CEO, Mecum Auto Auctions

Karen Magers, Director, Bloomington Eye Institute

Joanne Maitland, Retired

Dr. Scott Morgan, Practicing physician

Amy O'Brien, Family Nurse Practitioner, Community Health Care Clinic

Laurie Round, Chief Nurse Executive/Vice President of Patient Services, Advocate BroMenn Health Care

Deb Smith, Vice President, Nursing and Operations

Chief Nursing Officer, OSF St. Joseph Medical Center

Rose Stadel, Retired

#### Emeritus members

Billy Adkisson, Retired, Adkisson Consultants

Margaret Randolph, Retired

Nancy Froelich, Retired

Kelli Hill, Vice President, Advancement, Heartland Community College

Stevie Joslin, Retired

## Mennonite College of Nursing research mission

Mennonite College of Nursing faculty engage in research and scholarship to address the nursing and health care needs of urban and rural populations and to identify effective strategies to reduce health disparities in vulnerable and underserved populations. Faculty strive to engage the community served through research in a reciprocal relationship to ensure research practices are attentive to the special needs of vulnerable populations during all phases of the research process, including study planning, recruitment, obtaining consent for research, data collection, and reporting findings.

## Message from the associate dean of Research

The research enterprise at Illinois State University Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) is vibrant and productive because of the efforts of highly skilled and dedicated faculty, students, and staff. Our community may be proud of the work that is accomplished every day in support of improving the health and well-being of people here and around the globe.

In 2014-15 we surpassed previous productivity measures with notable increases in peer-reviewed publications and presentations from 16 research-active faculty including:

- Publication of 20 peer-reviewed/refereed articles in 2014; an average of 1.25 articles per individual faculty member
- Presentation of 36 peer-reviewed/refereed presentations at international, national, regional/local conferences; an average of 2.25 presentations per faculty member
- A strong presence at the 38th Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference in St. Louis:
  - 16 faculty were author/co-author on posters, poster discussions or paper presentations
  - 4 Ph.D. students were first or co-author on posters
  - 2 M.S.N. students were first or co-author on posters
  - 4 B.S.N. students were first or co-author on posters

Research efforts in the college remain focused on Nursing Education Science, Quality and Safety, and Vulnerable Populations, and collaborations between nursing and other disciplines are on the rise. Some examples of collaborations presently underway or in development are with:

- Communication Sciences and Disorders–Assistant Professors Jennine Harvey-Northrop (CSD) and Charlene Aaron (MCN)–an education science study of the effect of collaboration between student nurses and speech and language pathology students on elder care and student learning outcomes, supported by Sen. John and Joanne Maitland
- Family and Consumer Science–Sheri Kelly (MCN), Peggy Jacobs (MCN), and Keri Edwards (FCS)–an education science study of the effect of combined simulation with student nurses and child life specialist students on student learning outcomes
- Information Technology–Assistant Professors Elahe Javadi (IT) and Nancy Novotny (MCN)–a collaboration to teach informatics/study student response to intraprofessional education

The role of universities in producing new knowledge for improving the lives of citizens is so important, and the faculty, students, and staff at MCN are making a strong contribution to this effort. I am encouraged daily that such a stellar group of individuals is committed to a better future for all.

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN  
Associate Dean of Research, Graduate Program Coordinator, Professor



# Publications/Intellectual Contributions

Published between July 1, 2014–  
June 30, 2015

## Aaron, Charlene

Bachelor-Aselage, M., DiMeglio, B., **Aaron, C.**, Dugger, R. (2014). Infusing geropsychiatric nursing content into curriculum: Challenges and solutions. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 53(7), 387-94.

**Aaron, C.** (2014). Diabetes management in long-term care—annals of long-term care. *Diabetes Management in Long-term Settings, A Clinician's Guide to Optimal Care for the Elderly*, American Diabetes Association, 17-31.

## Dyck, Mary J.

Gabrielson, M. L., Holston, E. C., **Dyck, M. J.** (2014). Are they family or friends?: Social support instrument reliability in studying older lesbians. *Journal of Homosexuality*, 61(11), 1589-1604.

**Dyck, M. J.**, Schwindenhammer, T., Butcher, H. (2014). Evidence-based administrative guideline: Quality improvement in nursing homes. *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, 40(7), 21-31.

## Jenkins, Sheryl

Woith, W. M., **Jenkins, S. H.**, Astroth K. S., & Kennedy, J. A. (2014). Lessons learned from conducting qualitative research in a hospital. *Nurse Researcher*, 22(2), 40-43.

## Kennell, Lynn Canal S.

Pohl, C., Malin, S., **Kennell, L. S.** (2014). Re-inventing the home visit. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 53(12), 696-698. <http://www.healio.com/nursing/journals/jne/2014-12-53-12/%7B9e72e1c6-cc9b-4524-a0c4-f268ef6373e9%7D/reinventing-the-home-visit-for-undergraduate-nursing-students>

## Kerber, Cindy

**Kerber, C.**, Adelman-Mullally, T., Kim, M., & Astroth, K. (2015). The impact of pathological gambling on older adults [Abstract]. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 4(Suppl.1) 22.

## Kim, MyoungJin

Valerio, T., **Kim, M.**, Sexton-Radek, K. (2014). Poor sleep among U.S. college students with academic performance subscales. *Sleep*, 37(S), A377.

**Kim, M.** & Hayat, M. J. (2015). Investigating statistical preparedness of nursing graduates for the workplace. *Nurse Educator*, 40(3), 144-147.

Kerber, C., Adelman-Mullally, T., **Kim, M.**, & Astroth, K. (2015). The impact of pathological gambling on older adults [Abstract]. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 4(Suppl.1) 22.

## Malin, Michele

Pohl, C., **Malin, S.**, Kennell, L. S. (2014). Re-inventing the home visit. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 53(12), 696-698. <http://www.healio.com/nursing/journals/jne/2014-12-53-12/%7B9e72e1c6-cc9b-4524-a0c4-f268ef6373e9%7D/reinventing-the-home-visit-for-undergraduate-nursing-students>.

## Mallory, Caroline

Calderon, S., **Mallory, C. M.** (2015). A systematic review of oral health behavior research in American adolescents. *Journal of School Nursing*, 30(6), 396-403.

## Moody, Melissa

**Moody, M.** (2015). Mennonite College of Nursing: Transcultural nursing exchange, Sister Cities Association of Bloomington-Normal Vladimir Canterbury, Spring Issue, 1.

## Novotny, Nancy

**Novotny, N. L.**, Hermann, C., & Deibner, J. (2015). Animal-assisted therapy to promote ambulation in the hospital setting: Potentially effective but is it feasible? *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice*, 5 (7), 123-130. doi:10.5430/jnep.v5n7p123.

## Pohl, Carla J.

**Pohl, C.**, Malin, S., Kennell, L. S. (2014). Re-inventing the home visit. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 53(12), 696-698. <http://www.healio.com/nursing/journals/jne/2014-12-53-12/%7B9e72e1c6-cc9b-4524-a0c4-f268ef6373e9%7D/reinventing-the-home-visit-for-undergraduate-nursing-students>.

## Reitz, O. Ed.

**Reitz, O. E.** (2014). The job embeddedness instrument: An evaluation of validity and reliability. *Geriatric Nursing/ Elsevier*, 35(5), 159-166.

## Schafer Astroth, Kim M.

Haras, M. S., **Astroth, K. S.**, Woith, W. M., Kossman, S. P. (2015). Exploring advance care planning from the nephrology nurse perspective. *Nephrology Nursing Journal*, 42(1), 23-35.

Fitton, L., **Astroth, K. M.**, Wilson, D. D. (2015). Changing measures to evaluate changing bone. *Orthopaedic Nursing*, 34(1), 12-20.

Kerber, C., Adelman-Mullally, T., Kim, M., & **Astroth, K.** (2015). The impact of pathological gambling on older adults [Abstract]. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 4(Suppl.1) 22.

Woith, W. M., Jenkins, S. H., **Astroth K. S.**, & Kennedy, J. A. (2014). Lessons learned from conducting qualitative research in a hospital. *Nurse Researcher*, 22(2), 40-43.

## Stapleton, Stephen J.

**Stapleton, S.**, Degitz, R. (2015). Investigating discharged ED patients' pain management experience. *International Emergency Nursing*, 23(3):237-43. doi:10.1016/j.jen.2014.12.002. Epub 2015 Jan 21.

**Stapleton, S., Degitz, R.** (2014). An innovative data collection method for investigating unresolved pain following ED discharge: A pilot-study. *Journal of Emergency Nursing: JEN*. doi:10.1016/j.jen.2014.02.001.

#### **Valerio, Teresa D.**

**Valerio, T., Kim, M., Sexton-Radek, K.** (2014). Poor sleep among U.S. college students with academic performance subscales. *Sleep*, 37(5), A377.

#### **Wilson, Denise D.**

Fitton, L., Astroth, K. M., **Wilson, D. D.** (2015). Changing measures to evaluate changing bone. *Orthopaedic Nursing*, 34(1), 12-20.

#### **Woith, Wendy**

Haras, M. S., Astroth, K. S., **Woith, W. M.**, Kossman, S. P. (2015). Exploring advance care planning from the nephrology nurse perspective. *Nephrology Nursing Journal*, 42(1), 23-35.

**Woith, W. M.**, Bykova, A., & Abdulrehman, M. (2014). Feasibility of a photovoice study promoting respirator use among Russian health care workers. *Public Health Nursing*, 3(25), 471-477. doi: 10.1111/phn.12167.

**Woith, W. M.**, Jenkins, S. H., Astroth, K., & Kennedy, J. (2014). Lessons learned from conducting qualitative research in a hospital. *Nurse Researcher*, 22(2), 40-43.

## Funded Grants

### Funded between July 1, 2014– June 30, 2015

#### **Aaron, Charlene**

**Aaron, C., McClure, R., Northrup-Harvey, J.,** Speech-Language Pathology & Nursing Interdisciplinary Learning Project, \$15,000. (2014).

#### **Jenkins, Sheryl**

**Jenkins, Sheryl,** Kerber, Cindy, Schafer Astroth, Kim, Woith, Wendy, Understanding the Impact of Civility on Homeless Peoples' Healthcare Outcomes, Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Pi Chapter, \$2,000. (2014).

#### **Kelly, Sheri**

Rizzo, Teri, **Kelly, Sheri,** and Kossman, Susan, Evaluation of a New Focused Skills Course Within Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum, Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, Illinois State University, \$2,000. (2014).

#### **Kerber, Cindy**

Jenkins, Sheryl, **Kerber, Cindy,** Schafer Astroth, Kim, Woith, Wendy, Understanding the Impact of Civility on Homeless Peoples' Healthcare Outcomes, Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Pi Chapter, \$2,000. (2014).

#### **Kim, MyoungJin**

Novotny, Nancy L (Principal), **Kim, MyoungJin (Statistical Consultant),** Evidence to refine statistical education in nursing: Commonly reported statistics in nursing related literature, Illinois State University, \$4,000. (2014-2015).

#### **Malin, Shelly**

**Malin, Shelly (Other),** America's Promise School Project, State Farm Insurance, \$325,000. (May 2013-Present).

#### **Miller, Catherine**

Wilson, Denise D. (Other), **Miller, Catherine (Principal),** Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant, Health Resources and Services Administration, \$1,110,526. (2012-2016).

#### **Novotny, Nancy L.**

**Novotny, Nancy L. (Principal),** Kim, MyoungJin (Statistical Consultant), Evidence to refine statistical education in nursing: Commonly reported statistics in nursing-related literature, Illinois State University, \$4,000. (2014-2015).

**Novotny, Nancy L. (Principal),** Oester, Jessica, Stenger, Deborah, Posada, Nina. Getting it Right for Stakeholders: Implementation of Portfolios in a Pre-licensure Nursing Program, University Assessment Services, Illinois State University, \$2,000. (2014-2015).

#### **Posada, Nina**

**Novotny, Nancy L (Principal),** Oester, Jessica, Stenger, Deborah, Posada, Nina. Getting it Right for Stakeholders: Implementation of Portfolios in a Pre-licensure Nursing Program, University Assessment Services, Illinois State University, \$2,000. (2014-2015).

#### **Reitz, O. Ed.**

**Reitz, O. Ed. (Principal),** Illinois Board of Higher Education Nurse Educator Fellowship, Illinois Board of Higher Education. (2014-2015).

#### **Schafer Astroth, Kim**

Jenkins, Sheryl, Kerber, Cindy, **Schafer Astroth, Kim,** Woith, Wendy, Understanding the Impact of Civility on Homeless Peoples' Healthcare Outcomes, Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Pi Chapter, \$2,000. (2014).

#### **Stenger, Deborah**

Novotny, Nancy L (Principal), Oester, Jessica, **Stenger, Deborah,** Posada, Nina. Getting it Right for Stakeholders: Implementation of Portfolios in a Pre-licensure Nursing Program, University Assessment Services, Illinois State University, \$2,000. (2014-2015).

**Wilson, Denise D.**

**Wilson, Denise D. (Principal)**, Expanding the Primary Care Workforce through AENT Traineeships, Health Resources and Services Administration, \$699,997. (2014-2016).

**Wilson, Denise D.** (Supporting), Miller, Catherine (Principal), Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant, Health Resources and Services Administration, \$1,110,526.00. (2012 - 2016).

**Woith, Wendy M.**

Jenkins, Sheryl, Kerber, Cindy, Schafer Astroth, Kim, **Woith, Wendy**, Understanding the Impact of Civility on Homeless Peoples’ Healthcare Outcomes, Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Pi Chapter, \$2,000. (2014).

**Awards and Honors**

**Received between July 1, 2014–  
June 30, 2015**

**Cranston, Mary V.**

Illinois Nurse Leadership Fellow

**Dyck, Mary J.**

Graduate Program Teaching Award, Finalist, Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University

University Teaching Award Category 1, Nominee, Illinois State University

**Jenkins, Sheryl**

Illinois Board of Higher Education Fellowship Award

Graduate College Teaching Excellence, Finalist, Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University

**Kaesberg, Cathi B.**

ACE Award, Kaplan Nursing

**Kennell, Lynn Canal S.**

Finalist in Teaching Excellence Award, MCN

**Kim, MyoungJin**

Bell Ringer, Illinois State University

**Miller, Blanca**

Illinois Nurse Leadership Fellow

**Miller, H. Catherine**

Million Dollar Club, Illinois State University

**Novotny, Nancy L.**

Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Faculty Development Award

**Novy, Teresa K.**

First Place Recipient of the Nurses Week Story Contest, Advocate BroMenn

Kathleen Hogan Endowed Faculty Development Award, Dr. Kathleen Hogan

**Reitz, O. Ed.**

Early Career Research Award, Mennonite College of Nursing



L-R Nancy Wagler, Heather Winfrey-Richman, MyoungJin Kim

Illinois Board of Higher Education Nurse Fellowship Award, Illinois Board of Higher Education

**Schafer Astroth, Kim M.**

Meridean Maas Faculty Research Mentor Award

**Stapleton, Stephen J.**

University Service Initiative Award, Illinois State University

FAEN, Academy of Emergency Nurses

Research Poster Award, Emergency Nurses Association

**Valerio, Teresa D.**

Certificate of Appreciation for Patient Satisfaction Survey, Illinois State University Student Health Services

Graduate Program Teaching Award–Nominee, Illinois State University

**Wagler, Nancy**

Bell Ringer, Illinois State University

**Ward, Jenny**

Received Certified Fundraising Executive certification from CFRE International

**Wilson, Denise D.**

Graduate Program Teaching Excellence Award, Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University

Million Dollar Club, Illinois State University

**Winfrey-Richman, Heather N.**

Bell Ringer, Illinois State University

**Woith, Wendy**

Inducted into the American Academy of Nursing



## Woith chosen as American Academy of Nursing Fellow

Wendy Mann Woith, an associate professor in the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, has been selected by the American Academy of Nursing to join the newest class of fellows.



Wendy Mann Woith at the AAN Induction Ceremony

“This is a huge honor and richly deserved,” said Interim Dean of the Mennonite College of Nursing H. Catherine Miller. “Being named a fellow by the American Academy of Nursing demonstrates that Dr. Woith has indeed made significant contributions to nursing and health care.” The academy bases selection of fellows on the extent the nominee’s nursing career has influenced health policies and the health and well-being of all.

Woith’s work advances nursing and health care in Russia. Her research focuses on methods to decrease tuberculosis transmission among the general population and health care providers and has appeared in professional publications such as the *International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease*, the *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, and the *Journal of Health Psychology*. She also established an exchange program between nursing students and faculty at Illinois State University and Vladimir Medical College in Russia.

Among her honors are the Nurse Educator Award from the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Mennonite College of Nursing Meridean Maas Research Mentor Award. She was also named Virginia S. Cleland RN/American Nurses Foundation Scholar by the American Nurses Foundation. Woith has been teaching at Illinois State since 2000.

Worldwide, the academy is comprised of approximately 2,200 nurse leaders in education, management, practice, policy, and research. Academy fellows include hospital and government administrators, college deans, and renowned scientific researchers.

## Assistant Professor O. Ed Reitz awarded Nurse Educator Fellowship

O. Ed Reitz of the Mennonite College of Nursing has been awarded an Illinois Board of Higher Education Nurse Educator Fellowship.

An assistant professor at Illinois State, Reitz holds a doctorate in administrative nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an MBA from Illinois State University. In addition, he also received master’s and bachelor’s degrees in criminal justice, as well as his bachelor of science in nursing from Illinois State. He is a board certified advanced nurse executive. His research interests are strategies for improving nurse retention.

Reitz received the Kathleen Hogan Faculty Development Award in 2011 and was honored with the 2011 Book of the Year Award from the *American Journal of Nursing*. He is also a recipient of the Coleman Fellowship interdisciplinary program that promotes entrepreneurship.

Reitz has been published in journals including *Journal of Professional Nursing*, *Geriatric Nursing*, *Nursing Forum* and *Nursing Administrative Quarterly*. He has also presented at conferences such as Midwest Nursing Research Society, Council for the Advancement of Nursing Sciences, and the Gerontological Society of America.



O. Ed Reitz

# Twins to present at Midwest Nursing Research Conference

Senior nursing students Candace and Christa Carroll are excited to graduate from Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) this May. But before they graduate, the twins still have projects to complete, tests to take, and a presentation to give in April at the Midwest Nursing Research Conference (MNRS) in Indianapolis.



Associate Professor Cindy Kerber, Candace and Christa Carroll at the MNRS conference

As part of the Honors Program, they were required to work on a research project with a faculty member. Associate Professor Cindy Kerber is their advisor: “Candace and Christa have a passion for caring for older adults. So, they chose the project designed to improve the lives of older adults with dementia. We received funding from the William E. and Nancy Froelich Endowment for Long Term Care to fund the project expenses. Throughout the study Christa and Candace worked many extra hours. They were always enthusiastic and had energy for excellence. For Christa and Candace, their experience as undergraduates in conducting and disseminating research will provide a foundation for further research in their careers.”

The Carroll sisters will present “Sensing a Difference in Dementia Care” at the MNRS conference. This will be their first research conference, and they are very excited for this opportunity and experience. “Our study involved lavender and essential oils and the impact they had on patients with Alzheimer’s and sundowning symptoms,” Candace said. “We used a small sample of about 30 residents that involved putting the lavender diffuser in the room with their patients every day from 4–8 p.m.”

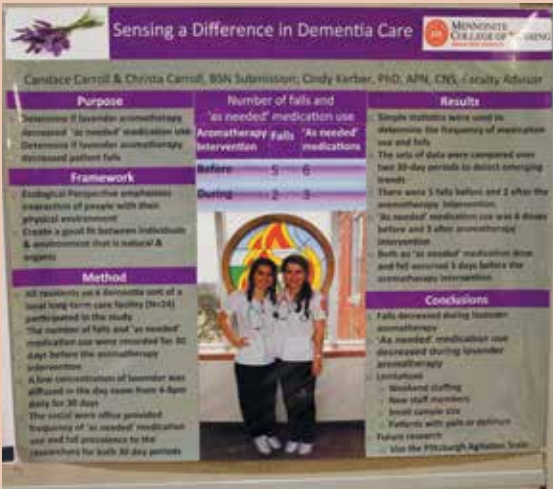
Their research project had a time frame of 30 days, and the nurses were to chart the number of falls and as-needed medications. At the end of the 30 days, the data showed that both the number of falls and as-needed medications decreased. “We have been working on this project with Dr. Kerber all year,” Christa said. “Seeing these results was amazing!”

Their desire to pursue a career in nursing started at home in Plainfield. Their mother is a nurse, and the sisters both said she was a huge inspiration.

In 2008, their grandmother was diagnosed with stage four colon cancer and was staying at their home. For Candace, seeing the great care the hospice nurses provided for her grandmother also motivated her to want to become an exceptional nurse and to care for patients like they cared for her grandmother. Christa was also inspired by the hospice nurses and has a passion for helping others and giving back to society.

Students at MCN know how intense the program is, but having a classmate-sibling—especially a twin—has been a tremendous benefit for Candace and Christa. They always have someone to go to for support, especially when they are stressed out, they said. They both agree that being a twin at the same college, in the same program, has been an amazing and wonderful journey.

After graduation, Candace would like to be an RN in an acute-care setting, and Christa would like to be an intensive care nurse or an oncology nurse. Both plan to pursue graduate degrees in nursing.



The Carroll sisters' poster at the MNRS conference

# PROUD grant helps students from underrepresented backgrounds become nurses

by Molly Hartrup

According to U.S. Census data, minorities make up 37 percent of the population, but the population of underrepresented nurses is around only 25 percent.



The \$1.1 million Pre-entry & Retention Opportunities for Undergraduate Diversity (PROUD) grant helps increase nursing as a career for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

“We need nurses to mimic diversity because our patients are diverse,” said Olanna Pullen, Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) outreach program coordinator. “And we are doing just that with the PROUD grant that will help the underrepresented population.”

Pullen coordinates the outreach and programming aspects of the \$1.1 million Pre-entry & Retention Opportunities for Undergraduate Diversity (PROUD) grant in an effort to help increase nursing as a career for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. “The grant can help Mennonite College of Nursing students with scholarships and stipends if they qualify based on the federal grant guidelines,” Pullen said.

The PROUD grant currently serves 61 students and offers numerous resources to help them succeed. “We have laptops and recording pens we can loan out, and we help students with resume building and interview skills,” Pullen said. “We also offer the PROUD students free printing and preparation for graduate programs.”

The college received the three-year Nursing Workforce Diversity grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It allows \$370,000 each year to introduce opportunities in nursing to middle and high school students and retain students from underrepresented groups and disadvantaged backgrounds. The project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Pullen promotes the nursing program at Illinois State by visiting high schools, middle schools, and health fairs. “I talk about what nurses do, the benefits of nursing, and the required courses they should take in high school,” Pullen said.

“The grant allows us to introduce middle and high school students to nursing as a career choice, to implement retention strategies for underrepresented MCN students, as well as leadership development throughout the educational experience,” said MCN Interim Dean H. Catherine Miller, who also oversees the grant.

Pullen makes it a point to bring the idea of nursing to minority groups such as men, who make up around only 9 percent of the nursing workforce. “Men are underrepresented in the field of nursing, and so are people with disabilities, first-generation college students, and low-income students,” Pullen said.

People seldom think of men as a minority, Pullen said, adding that she is always conducting informal surveys by asking students what they know about nursing and if they plan on going into the field. “Most young boys respond by saying, ‘No, it’s a field for women,’” she said.

According to Miller, the grant not only opens doors to the nursing field, but also strengthens the field itself: “The grant has provided scholarships to underrepresented students and programming that has positively impacted the entire College of Nursing, as well as MCN’s partners in the community.”



Olanna Pullen



# MCN faculty selected for Illinois Nursing Leader Fellowship

Assistant Professor Blanca Miller and Instructional Assistant Professor Mary Volle Cranston, of Illinois State University’s Mennonite College of Nursing, have been selected as Illinois Nursing Leader Fellowship participants for the upcoming year.



Mary Volle Cranston



Blanca Miller

The Illinois Nurse Leader Fellowship is a program dedicated to the development and support of managers and new directors from diverse practice environments throughout the state. Incorporating education, mentoring, and networking, the fellowship is designed to build and enhance leadership skills and competencies.

The program runs from November through July and consists of four interactive sessions, independent work, and a project in the participant’s workplace setting. Upon completion, graduates agree to serve as mentors to future participants.

The Illinois Nursing Leader Fellowship is sponsored by the Illinois Organization of Nurse Leaders and Illinois Healthcare Action Coalition in an effort to enhance the professional development of Illinois nurse leaders across the state.

## Mennonite College of Nursing receives nearly \$700,000 to educate nurse practitioners

by Rachel Hatch

The Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) at Illinois State University is the recipient of a federal Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship grant of nearly \$700,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to support the education of nurse practitioners.

HHS has estimated that by 2020, there could be a shortage of more than 20,000 primary care physicians in the United States. Demand for primary care providers continues to increase due to population growth—especially in the aging sector—and from the increased number of Americans obtaining insurance coverage as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

According to the HHS, this provider shortage could be minimized with an increased number of primary care nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

“The nurse practitioner plays a vital role in the provision of primary care,” said Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Sequence Leader and Professor of Nursing Denise Wilson, who is also the director of the grant. “The FNP is prepared to provide holistic primary health care. This includes not only the care of individuals with acute and chronic illnesses but also stresses health promotion, disease prevention, and providing education to assist patients to optimize their health status.”

The two-year grant, totally financed by federal funds, will continue the work of MCN to educate nurse practitioners to practice as primary care providers. There are currently 65 students in the sequence, including newly admitted students, who will begin classes in August.

“Funding is crucial to assist nurses to advance their education and to meet primary care needs of members of our communities,” said Mennonite College of Nursing Interim Dean H. Catherine Miller. “Receiving this grant will not only greatly benefit our students, but also help MCN lead the way in forging health care’s future.”





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